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Announcements

Sacramento Author to Share Queer Lessons for Straight Churches

The Lavender Library is hosting an evening with the Rev. Cody Sanders, the author of *Queer Lessons for Churches on the Straight and Narrow*.

Sanders, who lives in Sacramento with his partner Ben Curry (also a Baptist minister), and their dogs Suzie and Buddy, asks church leaders in his book "What Can YOU Learn From LGBTQ Lives?"

Winner of the National Bronze Medal for Gay/Lesbian/Bi/Trans Non-Fiction in the 2014 Independent Publisher Book Awards, Sanders further asks "What can all Christians learn from LGBTQ people that will enhance our lives and strengthen our communities of faith?"

He will present some of the answers at this talk and book signing on October 19, at 6:30 p.m. at the Lavender Library, located at 1414 21st St.

Refreshments will be served at the free



The Rev. Cody Sanders event and donations to the library are always welcome.

Visit www.facebook.com/LavenderLibrary and www.codyjsanders.com.

National LGBT History Month Project Is Now Online



Outzword is pleased to announce its participation in the ninth-annual National LGBT History Month Project, a nationwide journalism endeavor that seeks to uncover and explore the storied history of the LGBT community.

The project was begun in 2006 and this year will see record success, having expanded to include three-dozen partner publications and websites, each of which will

carry stories on LGBT history throughout October, National LGBT History Month.

Topics this year range from interviews with an LGBT activist who took part in an LGBT picket nearly 50 years ago to an exploration of early lesbian comic Moms Mabley to an analysis of the LGBT-related conspiracy theories regarding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Philadelphia Gay News (PGN) publisher and project coordinator Mark Segal noted that the initiative is a valuable team effort by the circle of contributors and partners LGBT publications that will go a long way to preserve LGBT history.

"This is the result of a lot of hard work by a lot of incredible journalist. I want to thank our writers and PGN editor Jen Colletta, who stepped up to the plate to make this year very special," Segal said. "This project, which started with a small number of newspapers, now unites the majority of local, quality, professional LGBT publications across the nation, allowing our community to showcase and appreciate its own history."

The first of these articles is now online at www.OutwordMagazine.com, and we will update them througout October.

CDC Ads Show *HIV Treatment Works*



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has launched *HIV Treatment Works*, a new national campaign to increase the proportion of Americans living with HIV who stay in care and on treatment. To preview the campaign, visit www.cdc.gov/actagainstaids/campaigns/hivtreatmentworks/index.html.

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Service of Remembrance to Honor LGBT Victims of Violence

In memory of those who have died or suffered violent attacks because they were, or were perceived to be, LGBT, the Sacramento Chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays is holding a Service of Remembrance on Sunday, Oct. 19.

The Service will remember their lives with love, bear witness to the atrocity of their deaths and affirm with all those present that hatred and violence against LGBT persons, all persons, must end.

This service will embrace a variety of spiritual expressions, and we will honor the names of over 750 people who died at the hands of hatred, ignorance and fear," said Howard Papworth, President of Sacramento PFLAG.

The Service of Remembrance has traditionally been programmed near National Coming Out Day, October 11, in recognition that coming out is a risk and often very dangerous for LGBT people and their families. By coming out, people risk their homes, their jobs, their friendships, their faith community memberships, their family relationships and even their lives.

The shocking deaths of Satender Singh in 2007 and Ruby Molina in 2008 right here Sacramento placed a spotlight on the terrifying magnitude of hatred directed toward LGBT people and the people who care about them and led in 1999 to the first Service of Remembrance held at Trinity

someone whose name should be included on the List of Lost Lives to contact them at contact@pflagsacramento.org.

City Councilmember Steve Hansen is the honorary Chairperson for the Service and



The lives — and names — of over 750 people who died at the hands of hatred, ignorance and fear will be remembered and honored at the Service of Remembrance. File photo from the 2011 Service of Remembrance.

Episcopal Cathedral.

One of the most moving parts of the Service is when members of the community enter the church carrying placards bearing the names of those that have lost their lives to hatred. The placards are then placed at the front of the Service in an emotional ceremony and display.

Sacramento PFLAG is encouraging Sacramento area residents who know of

the welcoming pastor is the Reverend Wesley Nordman, pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church. A homily will be be presented by the Reverend Megan Anderson of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.

The Service of Remembrance will be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1300 N St., from 4 to 5:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.pflagsacramento.org/ annual-service-of-remembrance.



U.S. Supreme Court Declines Review of ME Cases

he Supreme Court of the United States has the United out. denied review in all of the marriage equality cases pending before it. As a result of the Court's action, same-sex couples in Virginia, Wisconsin, Indiana, Oklahoma and Utah will now be able to marry the partners they love.

The orders, announced Oct. 6, also mean



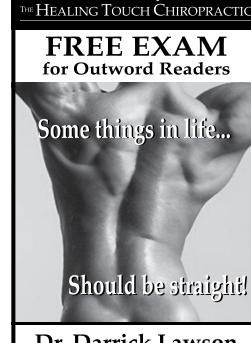
that same-sex marriage will soon become lawful in at least 30 states.

Gay and lesbian couples in Virginia, Utah, Wisconsin, Indiana and Oklahoma will be able to marry once the appellate courts'

mandates are officially issued - a victory of national significance for thousands of gay and lesbian couples and their children across the United States.

"What a great day to be a Virginian, and a great day to be an American," said Plaintiff Tim Bostic. "Today, we have made history in the South, and I can't wait for the day that all of our fellow Americans feel the same way and have the same rights that we do today."

The Supreme Court's denial of defendants' request for review, known as a petition for a writ of certiorari, makes final the Fourth Circuit's decision that found Virginia's marriage ban unconstitutional.



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ON THE COVER

African safari expert Jody Cole (with rifle) leads guests through Kruger National Park in South Africa. Photo credit: Robin Lowey.

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Briefly Put

Governor Signs Ammiano Bill on Condoms as Evidence

Gov. Jerry Brown has signed AB 336 by Assemblymember Tom Ammiano. The bill is intended to promote public health goals by reducing the use by prosecutors and law enforcement of condom possession as evidence of prostitution.

"It is entirely counterproductive for law enforcement to target people for holding unopened condoms in their wrappers, when public health officials are trying to encourage the use of condoms to cut the transmission of infectious diseases."

Ammiano's bill does not end the use of such evidence, but sets guidelines and court procedures for determining when it is appropriate. It was co-sponsored by the AIDS Healthcare Foundation and the LA Gay & Lesbian Center and will go into effect January 1.

I'm Gay – Get Over It

Lawmakers in the Pennsylvania state capital in Harrisburg proposed a major change in the state's hate crime law to extend protection to those who are LGBT, when the bill's sponsor, Sen. Jim Ferlo of Pittsburgh, made a surprise announcement – very casually.

"Hundreds of people know I'm gay. I just never made an official declaration," he said. "I never felt I had to wear a billboard on my forehead. But I'm gay. Get over it. I love it. It's a great life."

It's unclear if the legislation will advance in the Republican-controlled general assembly. The legislative session, and Ferlo's term, he is not running for re-election, expire at the start of 2015.

Manning Sues Pentagon for Gender Treatment

Chelsea Manning has filed a lawsuit in federal court in the District of Columbia against Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel and other Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of the Army officials for their failure to provide necessary medical treatment for her gender dysphoria, a condition with which she was originally diagnosed by Army doctors more than four years ago.

The complaint is accompanied by a motion for preliminary injunction demanding that Manning be provided hormone therapy, permission to follow female grooming standards, and access to treatment by a medical provider qualified to treat her condition.

Manning is currently serving a thirty-five year prison sentence at the United States Disciplinary Barracks at Ft. Leavenworth Kansas, and though the military recognizes that she has gender dysphoria requiring treatment, critical care has been withheld without any medical basis.

Without necessary treatment, gender dysphoria can cause severe psychological distress, anxiety, and suicidality.

New Poll Shows Plurality of Utahns Ready for Marriage

A new statewide poll conducted by Benenson Strategy Group for Freedom to Marry finds a plurality of Utahns – 49 percent to 48 percent – agree that same sex-couples should be allowed to get a state-issued marriage license.

Moreover, 61 percent believe legalizing marriage for same-sex couples in Utah is inevitable and will happen in the state within the next five years. And, by a large majority say they want the U.S. Supreme Court to settle this question once and for all.

"When the freedom to marry is supported by a plurality in Utah, one of our most conservative states, it demonstrates that there is an irreversible trend taking place and that this trend is accelerating at a pace not previously seen on any issue," said Joel Benenson, founder and CEO of Benenson Strategy Group who conducted the poll...

Facebook Apologizes to Drag Queens For Removing Pages

Facebook is apologizing to drag queens and the transgender community for deleting accounts that used drag names like Lil Miss Hot Mess rather than legal names.

The world's biggest online social network caught heat recently when it deleted several hundred accounts belonging to self-described drag queens, other performers and members of the LGBT community.

"I applaud Facebook for having the courage to apologize and do the right thing," said Assemblymember Tom Ammiano. "I'm glad they came to understand that this issue was not just a question of creating a persona for drag performers. For these drag performers, it is worse: They can be subject to violence and job insecurity if they are forced to use a real name instead of a stage name."

Locally Sacramento's Felicity Diamonds had to change her Facebook page, and can now change it back, but for some Facebooky reason has to wait 60 days.

EEOC Suits Challenge Transgender Discrimination

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has filed two federal lawsuits in two different states alleging sex discrimination against transgender individuals.

In Detroit, the Commission sued a funeral home and asserted that the defendant discriminated in violation of federal law by firing a funeral director/embalmer because she was transgender

The second is an action against a Florida-based organization of health professionals for violating Title VII by firing an employee because she was transgender. Among other things, the lawsuit asserts that although an eye clinic's employee had performed her duties satisfactorily throughout her employment, she was terminated after informing her employer that she was transgender and intended to start presenting as a woman.

The lives we touch inspire us

When fatigue, upper body pain and nausea overwhelmed Crystal one day, she brushed off suggestions she could be having a heart attack. After all, she was young and had no obvious risk factors.

But heart disease symptoms in women can be subtle and unique, and often go unrecognized. Friends pointed Crystal to UC Davis, home of the nation's first program dedicated to treating and preventing cardiovascular conditions in women.

Tests revealed three narrowed blood vessels, including one dangerous enough to require a stent. With help from the UC Davis Women's Cardiovascular Medicine Program, Crystal has since changed her diet and exercise regimen to avoid future problems. Now she shares her story so other women will "know their numbers" and the warning signs of a cardiac event.

To learn more about Crystal's new lease on a heart-healthy life and the comprehensive, nationally ranked cardiovascular services available at UC Davis, visit medicalcenter.ucdavis.edu

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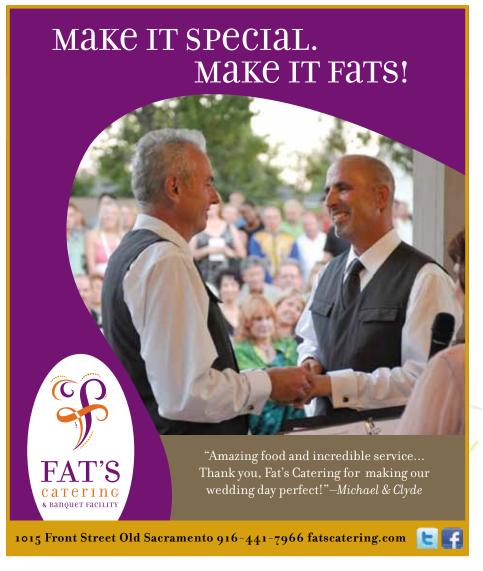


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Modern Family Act Signed by Governor Brown

ssemblymember Tom Ammiano's Modern Family Act, AB 2344, passed the California Assembly on a 57-2 concurrence vote and has been signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown. The law will go into effect on January1, 2015.

Ammiano's bill will help to reduce unnecessary legal actions involving families who use assisted reproductive technologies (ART) such as surrogacy or in vitro fertilization. It would primarily, but not exclusively, benefit LGBT couples who have families through ART.

"My bill represents an opportunity to have state law keep pace with the changes in reproductive technology," Ammiano said. "With a few simple changes, we can help families thrive without needless legal battles or expensive court actions."

The law has three main aspects which affect families that are created using a sperm donor or egg donor, as well as those using surrogates and same-sex couples who give birth to a child when they are married.

The first establishes a statutory form – much as currently exists for wills – that may be used in the event of pregnancy achieved through sperm or egg donations. The form would state intention of parenting rights and responsibilities, if any, for the donor and non-biological parent.

This would significantly reduce future litigation on the issue and therefore could lighten the burden on crowded courts.

The second provides that in cases of surrogacy – a growing phenomenon in California – the responsibility for medical insurance must be clearly indicated. This would provide clarity for insurance coverage for care of both the surrogate and the newborn.

The final provision applies to stepparent adoptions and rectifies an inequity that applies to families of same-sex married couples or registered domestic partners. Some states, unlike California, do not accept birth certificates unless they include one female mother and one male father, forcing these couples to go through an expensive step-parent adoption process to guarantee parental rights in other states. This provision would merely provide a streamlined adoption process for such parents that meet specified criteria and would waive associated fees.

FCC Urged To End Blocking Of Online LGBT Resources

ongressman Mike Honda (D-CA17) and 13 Members of Congress and over 20 organizations have sent a letter to top officials at the Federal Communications Commission, asking them to ensure that online filtering software used at federally funded schools and libraries does not prevent access to sites with important resources for the LGBT community.

Local schools and libraries are required to block material that is either "obscene; child pornography; or harmful to minors."

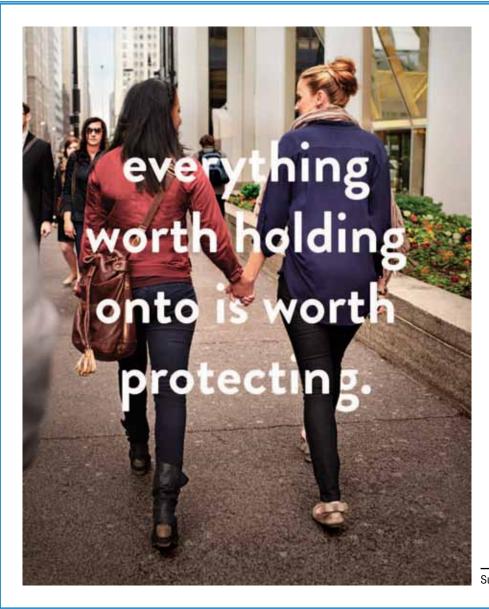
However, in the letter Congressman
Honda, the Founder and Chair of the
Congressional Anti-Bullying Caucus, notes,
"Filtering software also can be used to block
much more. Regrettably, Internet content
filtering software can – intentionally or
unintentionally – be used to block access to
particular viewpoints in a discriminatory
manner."

The Internet has the potential to help LGBT people cope with discrimination, isolation and stigma they may face in their everyday lives. A 2014 report by the LGBT Technology Partnership & Institute 'Vision for Inclusion: An LGBT Broadband Future' concluded that LGBT people are dependent on the Internet to meet a range of individual and social needs, which also makes them especially vulnerable to discriminatory Internet policies enacted by schools and



libraries."

The letter was cosigned by the American Civil Liberties Union, Human Rights Campaign, the LGBT Technology Partnership & Institute, the Santa Clara County School District, School District Superintendents, and over 20 organizations across the country.



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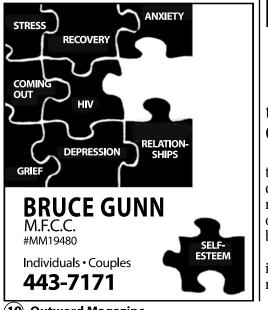
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LGBT Families Need To Protect Their Assets

commentary by Bob Scrivano

am starting this opinion piece with a link: www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/regs/documents/08-012-prt.pdf. You should go to that link and read it.

Contained within you will find regulations that are an all-out attack on the lives of the most frail and vulnerable members of the LGBT community. This is not idle chatter, it is real and unless stopped it will become law.

For over two decades the largest agency in California government has ripped over 1 billion dollars from the estates of the frailest among us, the disabled and the elderly. It is called Estate Recovery.

It is a little known or understood section of the law that in simple terms says the following; if you are unlucky enough to need Medi-Cal to help pay medical bills (30 percent of all Californians are on Medi-Cal) when you die, if you are over the age of 55, the State has the right to sue your estate or those who receive your estate to recover what was paid (Section 50961, Title 22,

CCR).

Let me state it again in another way. If you need Medi-Cal to help with HEALTHCARE, when you die this faceless Department of Health Care Services will come after your loved ones and family.

Now to most of us this is not new, but I want you to pay attention to page 8 and 9 of the proposed regulations. Note in section (b) and (c), that the State has now added RDP and others in the LGBT community as new targets. The reason this section is underlined is that it is NEW. Quietly and with no fanfare, many in the LGBT community are now targets.

The reason is simple, money. The State needs and wants more. It is estimated that the DHCS sues 8-9 thousand estates per year for an average of \$95,000. This is money that

families and loved ones never see.

This will become law if you do not engage and soon. You have until Oct. 27 to file written comments. You can fax them to 916-440-5748. After that it will become law. You can also help by going to California Seniors United, www.caseniors.org, and joining their email newsletter and sending them a generous contribution to fight this terrible and bigoted law.

Please get involved. Without your help and involvement this will become law and when it does, hundreds if not thousands of members of the LGBT community will find themselves victims of Estate Recovery along with the thousands of other Californians who have already lost their homes and their life's work just because they needed health care.

Bob Scrivano is the owner of Assets & Aging, and can be heard every Sunday from 7 to 8 a.m., on the KFBK 1530AM and 93.1FM on the program Assets & Aging. He can be reached at 800-999-8007 and followed on twitter, @assetsandaging.

Report Shows the Need for Data on Transgender People

new report highlights the lack of survey measures to identify transgender and other gender minority respondents in most federally-supported population-based surveys, making it difficult to assess the backgrounds and needs of transgender people.

The report, Best Practices for Asking Questions to Identify Transgender and Other Gender Minority Respondents on Population-Based Surveys, was prepared by The Gender Identity in U.S. Surveillance (GenIUSS) Group, on which GLSEN, the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network, is represented, and was released on Sept. 25.

The report examines which surveys currently include measures to identify transgender and other gender minority respondents and offers expert recommendations for including sex and gender-related measures in population-based surveys.

As the nation's leading education organization dedicated to ensuring safe and affirming schools for LGBT youth, GLSEN recognizes the critical need for data about

the specific experiences of transgender youth, parents, and educators. For the past several years, the organization has worked to identify best practices for collecting data about transgender and other gender minority adolescents in survey research.

"Transgender people and other gender minorities have long been an invisible group in population-based surveys, leaving researchers, policymakers and service providers without crucial information about the backgrounds and needs of transgender people. In particular, the experiences of transgender and gender minority youth are largely unrepresented in research," said Emily Greytak, PhD, director of research at GLSEN and coauthor of the section of the report focused on adolescents.

"Currently, no population-based surveys

collect data on transgender or gender minority youth," continued Dr. Greytak. "Collecting accurate data is critical for documenting and addressing the disparities associated with transgender and other gender minority communities. This important knowledge is essential for ensuring that schools are safe, supportive and provide equal access to education for transgender and gender minority youth."

There has been a growing interest in including survey items to identify transgender and gender minority youth and GLSEN's Research Department is regularly called upon by researchers from various spheres to provide guidance. With the goal of ensuring that all youth are counted and represented in research, this report from the GenIUSS Group could provide valuable support to researchers as they strive to collect critical data on transgender and gender minority youth.

The full report is available at http://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/geniuss-report-sep-2014.pdf.

Bill Signed to Expand Supply Chain for LGBT Businesses

ov. Jerry Brown has signed into law a historic bill that will result in new opportunities for certified businesses owned by those who identify as LGBT – a law that came about through testimony and advocacy by the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce.

Brown's action means public utilities in the state will be required, starting in 2015, to extend existing provisions granted to ethnic minority, women, and disabled veteran owned business enterprises to LGBT certified business owners.

It is believed to be the first bill of its kind in the United States and will serve as a model for similar legislation covering other highly regulated industries and in other states.

Assemblyman Rich Gordon and Sen. Mark Leno served as lead sponsors of the bill. It covers every electrical, gas, water, wireless telecommunications service provider and telephone corporations with annual revenues exceeding \$25 million.

It defines an "LGBT business enterprise"

as a business that is at least 51 percent owned by an LGBT person or persons, or, in the case of any publicly owned company, at least 51 percent of the stock is to be owned by an LGBT individual or individuals.

"Gov. Brown has further added to his impressive record on economic development and LGBT issues with his signing of this bill into law. We are very proud of the hard work of our team, all seven of our California Local Affiliate Chambers, our certified LGBT business owners, the California Small Business Association and other allied organizations that made this law not only

SUPPLY CHAIN continues on page 23

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Guerrero Wages Historic Campaign for SMUD Board

t a recent campaign event, former California Assemblyman Dennis Mangers described Mario Guerrero, candidate for **SMUD** Board Ward 3, as the "perfect candidate."

Youthful in appearance, classically handsome, and a member of the country's fastest growing population demographic, Guerrero fits Mangers' description, even at first glance. Underlying the good looks and reserved charm lays a depth of experience that promises to benefit both the utility and the public it serves.

Guerrero came to Southern California with his family as an undocumented immigrant at the age of three. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps during his senior year

he accepted, deputy policy director for the state Coalition for Clean Air, was "not the highest paying, but the one that was most closely aligned with my values," he says.

Later he served two years as government affairs director for the statewide LGBT civil rights advocacy organization Equality California. For the past year and a half he has served as legislative director for SEIU Local 1000.

As a SMUD board member Guerrero says he would work to ensure that all constituents



Mario Guerrero meeting with supporters before heading out on a door-to-door get out the vote walk in a SMUD Ward 3 neighborhood.

at La Puente High School and served eight vears in an infantry unit, mostly in the reserves. His unit was activated following the 9-11 terrorist attack and 1999, he became a U.S. citizen.

During his term of service, he was outed as a gav man. "It was awful at the time," he recalls. "When I joined the Marine Corps, I wasn't yet at a place where I had come to terms with my sexual orientation. During military training I would speak out when anti-gay things were said. When I was finally told I was being investigated for being gay, I walked through the barracks; I told everyone I was being discharged for being gay. Most were fine with it; they said they didn't have an issue with it and were sorry to see me

Later, as the movement to overturn the U.S. military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy grew, Guerrero did numerous media interviews to help bring visibility to the

Between college and grad school, Guerrero worked with the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) Natural Resources and Environment team in Washington, D.C. After graduating from Cornell University with a Master's degree in public administration and government policy, he came to Sacramento in 2009 for his first policy job out of graduate school.

Even at the height of the economic downturn, he had several offers. The position candidacy, visit www.guerrero4smud.com.

are aware of SMUD's programs to assist low-income, seniors, veterans and people with disabilities in paying their bills, a focus he attributes to having grown up in relative poverty.

He also is excited about SMUD's leadership and success in the area of greener energy and about helping to shape SMUD's future in an increasingly energy-efficient

"My trajectory as an advocate is that I am never fully satisfied with progress," he says. "I keep pushing because I know there is so much more to do. That is something I will bring to the board."

Guerrero enjoys strong community support and has been endorsed by the Sacramento Stonewall Democrats, the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce RainbowPAC, the state Democratic Party, and a majority of SMUD board members.

SMUD districts are sprawling, larger than Sacramento City Council districts. Ward 3 encompasses East Sacramento, McKinley Park, Campus Commons, Rosemont, La Riviera, Arden, Arden Park, Florin, Coffing, and everything in between.

If elected, Guerrero will be the first openly gay SMUD board member and the only Latino member. In a mid-term election year, when voter turnout is typically very low, "every vote will be critical," he says.

For more information about Guerrero's



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Wild Rainbow: An African Love Story

by Bonnie Osborn

Philanthropist and LGBT activist Jody Cole didn't set out to start a safari company, but once she followed her life-long dream to go on safari in Africa, her course was set.

It began in 1998 with a six-week trip to South Africa and Tanzania. "I loved it the moment I got off the plane in South Africa," she told *Outword*. "I recognized the smell of the soil; it was a visceral experience. It caught me off-guard."

A year later she returned for a walking safari in Zimbabwe. "That was really the safari that sealed the deal for me and my subtler forms of African nature. She holds a Level 2 Field Guide and Trails Guide certification, with advanced rifle handling, and will begin her Level 3 training, the highest level certification, this year. Her training involved a rigorous, month-long curriculum, learning "everything from ground to sky: soils, botany, geology, animal behavior, insects, birds and more.

Although there has been political turmoil in some areas where Wild Rainbow operates, for the most part the unrest is concentrated in urban areas rather than in safari country. The company did cancel planned trips to Uganda in 2014 after its government passed a punitive law criminalizing homosexuality, not only to avoid risk to its safari guests, but to make a political point.

Walking safaris are paced for most fitness levels, canoe trips are easy floats, and other game safaris primarily use vehicle transport. Health services are accessible in most safari



Jody Cole (squatting, right) and her safari group meeting members of the Maasai tribe in Tanzania. Photo credit: Wild Rainbow Safaris

future," she says. She began traveling in Africa once or twice a year. Ten years ago this summer she organized her first group safari, for a friend's 50th birthday. "I told her you can be the birthday queen; you organize your dream trip itinerary, who comes and all that, but the minute the wheels hit the tarmac in Africa, I am in charge. The trip was magic.

"After that, I said, 'I want to do this again.'
After the next trip, I started the company,
and I have not regretted it."

Even the economic downturn didn't discourage Cole. During Wild Rainbow African Safari's first three years, she spent a lot of time at travel shows and other events to put herself in front of people. Many of her customers are LGBT people, and most of her marketing effort is spent in the LGBT community via publications and organizations such as *Curve Magazine*, *Out Traveler* and the International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association. The business has grown primarily through word of mouth.

Safari companies, are "a dime a dozen" in Africa, she says. What differentiates her from the typical, "cookie-cutter safari company" is her field expertise and her passion for the "I was the oldest in my course, the only American female – and it's a man's world," Cole says. "I was the only person in my course who passed the exam, written and practical." The advanced training was in the bush learning about dangerous game behavior – "anything that can get you before you could run" – and how to respond in order to keep guests safe. "I am the only gun-toting lesbian in the bush of Africa that I know of," she says.

But it is Cole's appreciation for – and ability to share – the small, everyday wonders of the African wild – from a massive termite mound to the web-covered hole of a baboon spider that distinguish her. People in East Africa call her "Mama," a term that offended her until she understood it was a sign of respect for her expertise.

Cole guides all Wild Rainbow trips, which are planned a year in advance. "I didn't get into this business to be a travel agent," she says.

People of all ages and fitness levels are able to participate, Cole says. The company monitors travel and safety alerts from a variety of sources as well as communications with its personnel on the ground.

areas

Wild Rainbow Operations Manager Robyn Eckern has known Cole since 1989, "before this became a passion." "I have seen her grow so much in those years," Eckern says. "I knew her here in California. In 2009 I went on one of the safaris. When I saw her in Africa, she was like a totally different person. She comes alive.

"She is very well respected there and here for her knowledge and her passion. I see the reaction of the people who go with her and the trust. We all go because we trust her."

Eight trips are planned for 2015, the company's 10th anniversary year, as well as a couple of custom trips. "All my 10th anniversary trips are safaris I want to do," Cole says. "Next year is like my birthday."

The Zimbabwe trip will be a close approximation of her second safari, the one that "sealed the deal" on her future. "What I am trying to create for people is my first experience, which is that mind blowing experience of falling in love," Cole says. "I want people to say 'omigod' multiple times."

For more information about Wild Rainbow African Safaris, visit WildRainbowSafaris.com.



Dr. Cameron T. Yee

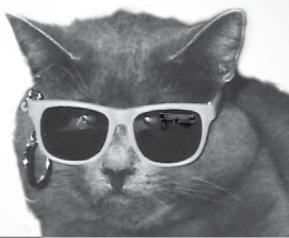
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Capital Book Festival Will Feature Many Books of Interest to LGBT Readers

Three acclaimed authors will be on hand at the inaugural California Capital Book Festival, presenting works that will have a special interest to LGBT readers.

Of course, LGBT readers will find many titles of interest to them on subjects as varied as pet care to do-yourself tomes, but these three titles by local authors – and the chance to meet them - should not be missed.

This Day In June

Sacramento's Gayle Pittman is the author of the award-winning nonfiction book Backdrop: The Politics and Personalities Behind Sexual Orientation Research.

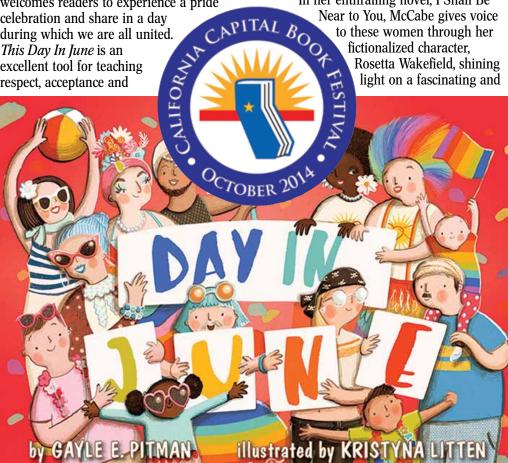
Her new book, This Day In June, is a wildly whimsical, validating and exuberant reflection of the LGBT community, that welcomes readers to experience a pride

celebration and share in a day during which we are all united. This Day In June is an excellent tool for teaching respect, acceptance and

college library, California native Erin Lindsay McCabe, who now lives in the Sierra Foothills, stumbled upon a book of letters written by Rosetta Wakeman.

Under the alias Lyons Wakeman, Rosetta served as a private in the Union army, and through her letters, McCabe would discover a fiercely strong woman committed to being a good and honorable soldier. Deeply moved by Rosetta's story, McCabe was determined to bring greater attention to the contributions of Rosetta and her fellow female soldiers.

> In her enthralling novel, I Shall Be Near to You, McCabe gives voice to these women through her fictionalized character, Rosetta Wakefield, shining



understanding of LGBT people. Visit gaylepitman.com.

This Is How You Say Goodbye

When Victoria Loustalot was eight years old her father swept her up in a grand fantasy: a trip around the world. It was an outlandish plan and she fell for it. But it could never happen.

Victoria's once-closeted father was gay and HIV positive. Not long after making his promise, he would be bedridden with full-blown AIDS. Three days before her eleventh birthday, he would kill himself.

This Is How You Say Goodbye follows a daughter as she searches for answers about her father, and about herself. In this razorsharp memoir, Loustalot travels to Cambodia, Stockholm, and Paris to find out who her difficult and charismatic father was, and where, exactly, she came from.

Visit us.macmillan.com/ thisishowyousaygoodbye/victorialoustalot.

I Shall Be Near to You

While searching through the stacks of her

largely ignored aspect of American history. Visit erinlindsaymccabe.com.

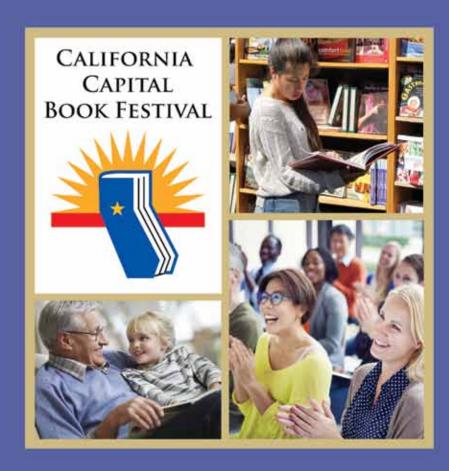
In addition to these three authors, one hundred-plus authors and poets have been confirmed to appear at the Festival, which will feature author panels and presentations, storytelling, demonstrations, art, food, kids stage, sports stage, culinary stage, all things pets stage, poets stage, biographies, history, non-fiction, mysteries, young adults literature, health and wellness, outdoor adventure and an interactive School of Comics.

The first Sacramento Walk4Literacy, presented by the Sacramento Library Foundation, will end with a ribbon-cutting ceremony to formally open the festival at 10 a.m. on Oct. 25.

The Capital Book Festival will be held Oct. 25 and 26 at the Sacramento Convention Center. For program, exhibitor and sponsor information, or to become a "Friend of the Book Festival," visit www.ccbookfestival.com or call 916-307-1713.







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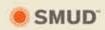
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Halloween Horror At Home by Chris Narloch

ost of the horror films in theaters are shocking all right – shockingly bad. The small screen, however, is home to some highly acclaimed horror these days, and shows such as *The Following* and *The Walking Dead* are among the most popular series on cable.

Read on for details of my favorite current small-screen shocker, plus a new movie based on a story by Stephen King.

American Horror Story: Freak Show

Metaphorically speaking, American Horror Story has been a freak show since its inception in 2011, and I mean that as a compliment.

So it's only natural that this crafty cable creepshow from Ryan Murphy should give its new season a carnival setting filled with actual circus "freaks" and other lost souls.

American Horror Story: Freak Show debuted on October 8 with its usual all-new storyline, featuring regular cast members Jessica Lange (who runs the carnival), Kathy Bates (the bearded lady), Sarah Paulson (a two-headed woman), and Angela Bassett (three breasts!)

Before we went to press, I had only seen the very Tim Burton-like opening credits, but I am hooked already by the crazy carny setting and what is perhaps the best ensemble cast anywhere on



Kathy Bates in American Horror Story: Freak Show

television.

Tune in Wednesdays at 10 p.m. on FX.

Big Driver

This shocker from the warped mind of Stephen King is perfect for Halloween month, if you can stomach an extremely violent rape scene near the start of the movie, which stars Maria Bello as a career woman who is violated and left for dead by a truck driver/serial killer at a remote gas station.

Basically a female version of Death Wish, Big Driver has Bello's character turn in to a vigilante obsessed with getting revenge against her attacker.

The cast is first-rate, with Bello supported by Olympia Dukakis and Joan Jett, but the movie is pretty disturbing stuff.

Decide for yourself when *Big Driver* premieres on Lifetime this October 18.

Double Your Pleasure With *The Skeleton Twins*

by Frances Marlatt

In this new indie film from director Craig Johnson, Kristen Wiig and Bill Hader play estranged twins Maggie and Milo, struggling through their thirties and dealing with equally painful amounts of depression and dissatisfaction.



Bill Hader and Kristen Wiig in a scene from Skeleton Twins.

Following a very devastating incident, the siblings are brought together after not speaking for a decade. As they begin to reform their bond, we watch them discover each other and themselves.

While on paper these characters seem as though they would not be easy to love, the film takes a very insightful and understanding approach, making it impossible to not feel for them as human beings.

These characters are screwed up but completely aware of it. Even when they do things that seem awful and absolutely selfish, we can't help but feel for them and understand.

And that epic lip synch scene to the tune of "Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now" that no one asked for or ever thought they wanted to see done again - man are we glad that happened (cue the goose bumps).

Who would have thought a lip synch scene could be that original

Watching this film, there will absolutely be something, if not many things, you can relate to. This movie is truly joyful to watch, and the performances are absolutely incredible.

The Skeleton Twins is an intelligent and beautiful film that studies average individuals doing perhaps unlikable things while taking one of the most honest, thoughtful approaches we have seen in recent films, making it immensely enjoyable and truly a fun experience.

The Skeleton Twins was still playing at The Tower as we went to press.

Frances Marlatt is a Forensic Mental Health Worker in Sacramento with a passion for writing and an excessive love of great indie films. She can be reached at

francesmarlatt@yahoo.com.



The Evil Dead Will Rise in Folsom - Plus TFO Halloween at the Crest

by Chris Narloch

If Christmas is for the kiddies, Halloween is gradually being co-opted by adults, especially since trick-or-treating isn't as safe as it used to be.

There are many events vying for your Halloween dollar this year. Here are some of the coolest options for a spooktacular All Hallows' Eve season in Sacramento.

Evil Dead: The Musical

This hilarious live stage show takes all the elements of the cult classic horror films – *Evil Dead, Evil Dead 2*, and *Army of Darkness* – and combines them to make one crazy theatrical experience.

"It's an old tale. You've probably heard it a hundred time," says hero character Ash in an aside to the audience. "Boy and his friends

go on a weeklong vacation in the woods. Three friends turn into Candarian demons. One friend is killed by a forest of evil trees, two demons are killed by their boyfriends, respectively, while one stays in the cellar trying to kill everything in sight. Like I said, pretty standard stuff."

Evil Dead: The Musical opened on Oct. 1 and continues through Saturday, Nov. 1. Recommended for mature audiences due to violence and language. Call early if you want to sit in the Splatter Zone!

Tickets can be purchased online at www.



Rick Eldredge and Gabriela Haught in the 2013 production of *Evil Dead*. Photo by Lauren Jaye.

SutterStreetTheatre.com or by calling the box office at 916-353-1001.

Trash Film Orgy Halloween 2014

Do not miss what may be the last ever Trash Film Orgy at the Crest Theatre, on Friday, October 24.

Featuring Tim Burton's classic film *Beetlejuice*, back on the big screen and in glorious 35 mm, this is likely to be the best Trash Film Orgy yet.

Come early for vintage Halloween safety films, an unbelievably trashy live stage show, the amazing Deejay Junior, games, contests, prizes, beer, wine, shenanigans, and much, much more.

All tickets \$10. Come in costume and save \$1 off admission at the door. Visit trashfilmorgy.com for more information.

Crocker Art-Mix-Monster Ball

Party with the monsters and the Undead on Thursday, Oct. 9 at the Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., from 5 to 9 p.m. Join the event on Facebook for updates, www. facebook.com/events/836441146386728/ and tickets at crockerartmuseum.org

Sacramento Horror Film Festival

This year's Festival features, shorts, contests, special guests and much more, all on Fri. Oct. 3 through Sun. Oct. 12 at the Colonial Theater, 3522 Stockton Blvd. Tickets sachorrorfilmfest.com and www.facebook. com/events/778639395482687/ for updates.

Super Sac-Con

Comics, toys, special guests, panels, games and more on Sat. Oct. 18 & Sun. Oct 19 at the Scottish Rite Center, 6151 H St. Tickets www.sac-con.com and updates at www. facebook.com/events/590888651020415/

Vampire Ball 2014

Come in your Vampire finest for a Truly Bloody Ball Sat. Oct 25 at 800 All American City Blvd, Roseville from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Info at www.facebook.com/events/268726189957375/.



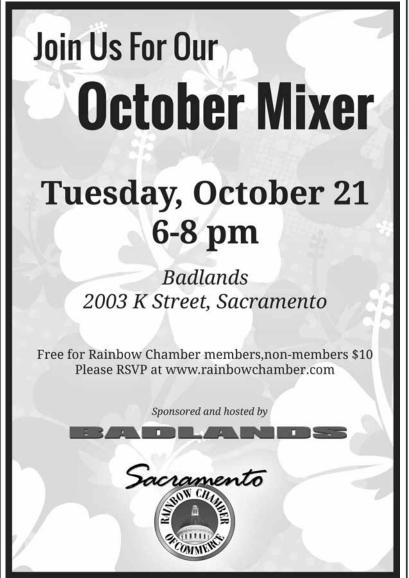
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Out & About

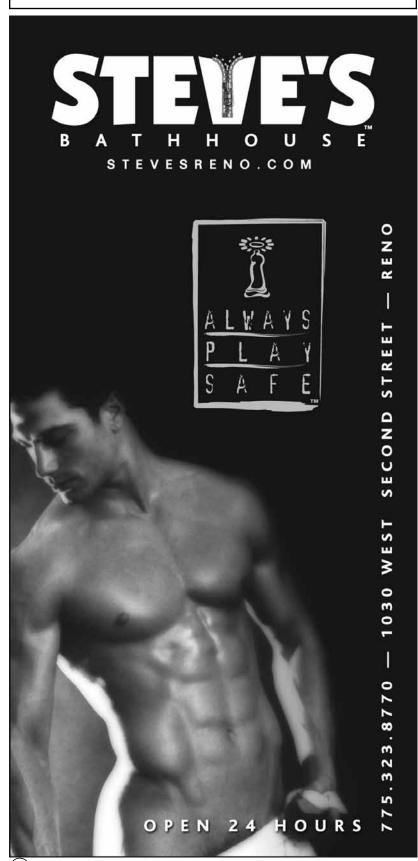
a red dress to raise money to support local AIDS related charities at the 3rd Annual Red Dress Party held at Badlands on Saturday, Sept 27. Neon Hitch, Nadya Ginsburg, the Bodacious Bombshell Burlesque Review, local drag stars Taryn-Thru-U, Chantall and Betty Booger and DJ Andrew Gibbons kept the crowd of over 400 in great spirits throughout the night. Although the final accounting is not done, between ticket sales and sponsorships an estimated \$25,000 was raised, all made possible by a dedicated cadre of volunteers. You can see more photos, and download them for free at outwordoutabout.shutterfly.com/11999.

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Richard Blanco's Poetry Comes to Life in *Until We Could*

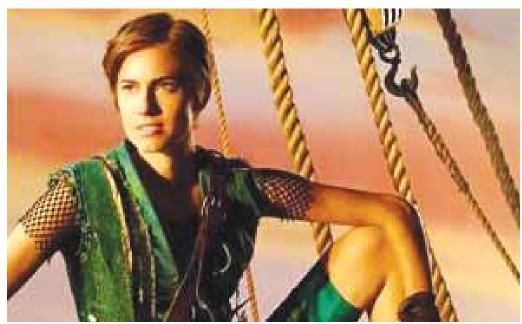


To celebrate the 10th anniversary of Freedom to Marry, U.S. Presidential Inaugural Poet Richard Blanco created an original poem celebrating love and the freedom to marry. His powerful piece, called "Until We Could," has been made into a powerful and loving short film that vividly shows the meaning of marriage, and reminds us why our fight for the freedom to marry for all loving couples is so important. Watch it for free at www.freedomtomarry.org/until-we-could-poem

Allison Williams Goes Butch for *Peter Pan Live!* on NBC

by Chris Narloch

irls star Allison Williams has been cast and will play the plum role of Peter Pan in NBC's Peter Pan Live!, the network's second recent attempt to bring a live musical to the small screen.



Allison Williams as Peter Pan in NBC's Peter Pan Live!

Last year, NBC scored huge ratings with their live broadcast of *The Sound of Music* starring Carrie Underwood, which was widely panned by critics and fans of that cherished musical.

For the record, I thought that production was stiff and slow, but Underwood sounded great, despite not being much of an actress. It was worth seeing, though, for fantastic work by Laura Benanti and, especially, the amazing Audra McDonald.

Hopefully, they will figure out how to make *Peter Pan Live!* more exciting than *The Sound of Music* was, and the casting should help.

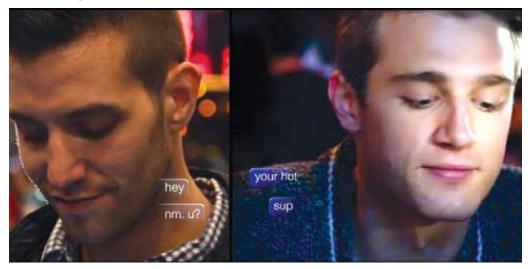
None other than Christopher Walken has been cast to play Captain Hook, and the incomparable Kelli O'Hara was born to play Mrs. Darling.

Mr. Darling and Mr. Smee will both be played by Christian Borle, who was also in *The Sound of Music*.

I am not familiar with the work of Allison Williams, but she looks butch and beautiful in the first publicity photo released by the production.

Mark your calendars for December 4, 2014, when Peter and his lost boys will fly on to your television screen.

Finding Love in a Bubble with *Grind the Movie*



"Grind: The Movie" is a short film musical that takes a sexy and creative look at contemporary hook-up culture in gay life. Asking "Do you really know who you're talking to?," the all-star cast takes us on a musical journey of love and connection in an era where who we are is defined by our online personas and stars Anthony Rapp (If/Then, Rent), Claire Coffee (Grimm, The West Wing) and Pasha Pellosie (The Carrie Diaries.) The hit of LGBT film festivals across the country, the 34 minute short film can be seen free at www.GrindShortFilm.com

Pride Is Truly A Gay Film To Be Proud Of

by Chris Narloch

rdinarily, I want to groan when moviemakers trot out the "based on a true story" angle in order to sell their product. But in the case of the fantastic new British film *Pride*, the movie is much more than "product," and the fact-based story it has to tell is both heartfelt and extraordinarily entertaining.

Pride

Written by Stephen Beresford and directed by Broadway wizard Matthew Warchus, *Pride* details an alliance that sprang up between a group of lesbian and gay activists and the families affected by the UK miners' strike of 1984.

Much of the movie is set in a small mining village in Wales, where the conservative families are at first unwilling to embrace their gay supporters, who arrive in town with high spirits to deliver money they have raised for folks they don't even know.

Solidarity among the oppressed, no matter what they look like or whom they sleep with, is the message of *Pride*, and rarely has this message been so pleasingly proffered.

Imagine the movies *Kinky Boots, Billy Elliot* and *The Full Monty* rolled in to one film, and you'll have some idea of the pleasures in store r u at *Pride*.

Most of the movie's terrific cast consists of veteran UK actors like Bill Nighy, Dominic West and Imelda Staunton – all superb here -- but *Pride* also stars a very attractive young New York actor, Bill Schnetzer, who studied in Britain.

Schnetzer convincingly and movingly plays the leader of Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners, an activist group in Thatcher-era London that operates out of a queer bookstore (remember those?)

It's a rare film that can pull off a feel-good, audience-pleasing story that also contains scenes of realistic and impassioned political activism.

Pride opens Friday, Oct. 10 at the Tower. Go see it.

Gone Girl

Also new in theaters, the latest over-hyped, overlong and overrated dud to come out of the Hollywood film factory is from David Fincher, an insanely talented director who, unfortunately, is frequently drawn to mediocre material.

That is definitely the case here, as Fincher lavishes a great deal of care – the acting, cinematography, and editing are all as top-notch as the direction – on a story that is deeply unsatisfying.

Gone Girl is best enjoyed (although,

PRIDE continues on page 23

Life's Hectic, Let Us Do The Dirty Work.



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Champagne, Cream Puffs & Catherine Deneuve at the Crest

The Sacramento French Film Festival recently announced a not-to-be-missed Mini Fall Film Festival, slated for Sunday, October 19, at the Crest.

Featuring Jacques Demy's beautiful 1964 musical *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg*, the daylong festivities will also include a double feature presentation of *Marius* and *Fanny*, Daniel Auteuil's versions of one of France's most iconic cinematic love stories.

The Umbrellas of Cherbourg, which stars Catherine Deneuve and won the Palme d'Or at Cannes, will be shown in a brand new restored version to celebrate its 50th anniversary. This event will also serve as a bittersweet "thank-you" and farewell to the current Crest



Although the new owners of the Crest hve not disclosed their plans for the operation of the historic theatre, it is hoped that it will still remain the venue for film like SIGLFF.

management, including Sid Heberger, who is departing the theater at the end of October, when the property's owner takes over its day-to-day operation.

An era is ending at the Crest, but you can come and show your gratitude for Sid's 28 years of accomplishments at the Crest with a champagne and cream puff reception before *The* Umbrellas of Cherbourg.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit www. SacramentoFrenchFilmFestival.org.

Diana Ross Wows 'em at Thunder Valley



There really ain't no mountain high enough to stop this dyanmic artist, as she proved at a concert on Saturday Sept. 27 at the Thunder Valley Casino. Ross drew standing ovations as she sang hit after hit. Photo by Colt McGraw.



Artwork Deadline: October 13, 2014 Street Date: October 23, 2014

Holiday Shopping Part One



Artwork Deadline November 17, 2014 Street Date: November 27, 2014

Holiday



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We will be publishing a December 25 issue this year.



New Duet CDs From Streisand & Gaga

by Chris Narloch

here is nothing more delicious than when a diva deigns to record a duet with another artist, allowing the other singer to bask in the glow of her fame and fabulosity.

Both Lady Gaga and Barbra Streisand have new releases that feature their golden voices in tandem with some of the finest male singers in the business, including Tony Bennett, Andrea Bocelli, John Legend, Billy Joel and others.

Which CD soars and which takes a belly flop? Read on for my diva-do's and diva-don'ts.

Tony Bennett & Lady Gaga – Cheek To Cheek



It must be said right off the bat that this is not a great recording by jazz standards, but as a pop record from two fast friends who obviously love each other, it works just fine.

What an odd couple! When Bennett and Gaga first teamed up, on *The Lady is a Tramp*, it was one of the highlights from his 2011 all-star duets collection.

On *Cheek To Cheek*, the best numbers have that same sassy appeal, such as the title track, "Anything Goes," and "It Don't Mean A Thing."

Those songs swing and the pair's voices blend well together. When the music slows down, however, and Gaga tries to prove that she is a serious jazz artist, things don't go as well.

Her solo version of Billy Strayhorn's difficult masterpiece "Lush Life," for instance, is a dud, and she is simply trying too hard on "I Can't Give You Anything But Love."

I didn't much care for Lady Gaga's last pop CD, but she is to be commended for

stretching herself and trying something different here.

Cheek To Cheek won't find its place among the great jazz records, but if it turns those Little Monsters on to the Great American Songbook, that's not a bad thing.



Barbra Streisand - Partners

This one is for diehard Barbra fans only, or fans of the talented men Streisand hand picked to share her microphone, including Lionel Richie, Babyface, and John Mayer.

Unfortunately, Streisand chose to waste these talented guys on songs that she has already recorded in versions that were mostly superior to these, but the disc does have its moments.

Stevie Wonder adds his lovely harmonica to "People," and John Mayer plays a mean guitar on "Come Rain Or Come Shine," but some of the singers are not in Streisand's league.

Blake Shelton was a mistake, for instance, both because he can't keep up with Barbra, and she doesn't have a country bone in her body.

Streisand fares better on "I Still Can See Your Face" with Andrea Bocelli and "Somewhere" with Josh Groban, two singers who share her big, dramatic vocal style.

Yet the biggest surprise (and pleasure) on the CD is probably Streisand's duet with her son, Jason Gould, on "How Deep Is The Ocean." He should seriously pursue a career in music because great singing obviously runs in the family.

Mexican Stories of Love and Acceptance in *Four Moons*



The Mexican LGBT drama Four Moons (Cuatro Lunas) tells four different stories about love and self-acceptance: a boy secretly attracted to his male cousin; two college students starting a secret relationship; a couple wasted due to the arrival of another man; and an old man dazzled over a young male prostitute. The film will be released on DVD this December, but you can see the trailer now at bgpics.com.

Supply Chain continued from page 10



Members of the Golden Gate Business Association and Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce met with Assemblymember Rich Gordon (5th from left) before a legislative hearing on AB 1678 earlier this year.

our priority, but also their priority," said Justin Nelson, NGLCC co-founder and president.

"We also are grateful for the wide support of this law from diverse business communities and the unwavering and consistent support from AT&T and Southern California Edison,"

NGLCC affiliate chambers in California

include the Golden Gate Business
Association in San Francisco, the Sacramento
Rainbow Chamber of Commerce, the
Rainbow Chamber of Silicon Valley, the
Long Beach Community Business Network,
the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Chamber of
Commerce, the Desert Business Association
in Palm Springs and the Greater San Diego
Business Association.

Pride

continued from page 21



A scene from the movie *Pride*

personally, I didn't find it enjoyable at all) as a very dark black comedy about a marriage from hell, because the mystery/thriller aspects of the story do not pay off in any

Intricately plotted but empty and preposterous, *Gone Girl* is based on an enormously successful novel by Gillian Flynn, who adapted her own work for the screen.

It may be difficult to process the fact that

this nasty material was written by a woman after you've seen the movie, but I would guess that the book, which I have not read, is much better than this

As a result of the way movies are promoted and distributed, many more people will see the coldly cynical *Gone Girl* than will see the sweet and genuinely uplifting *Pride*, a fact that I find profoundly depressing.

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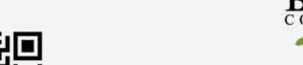
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